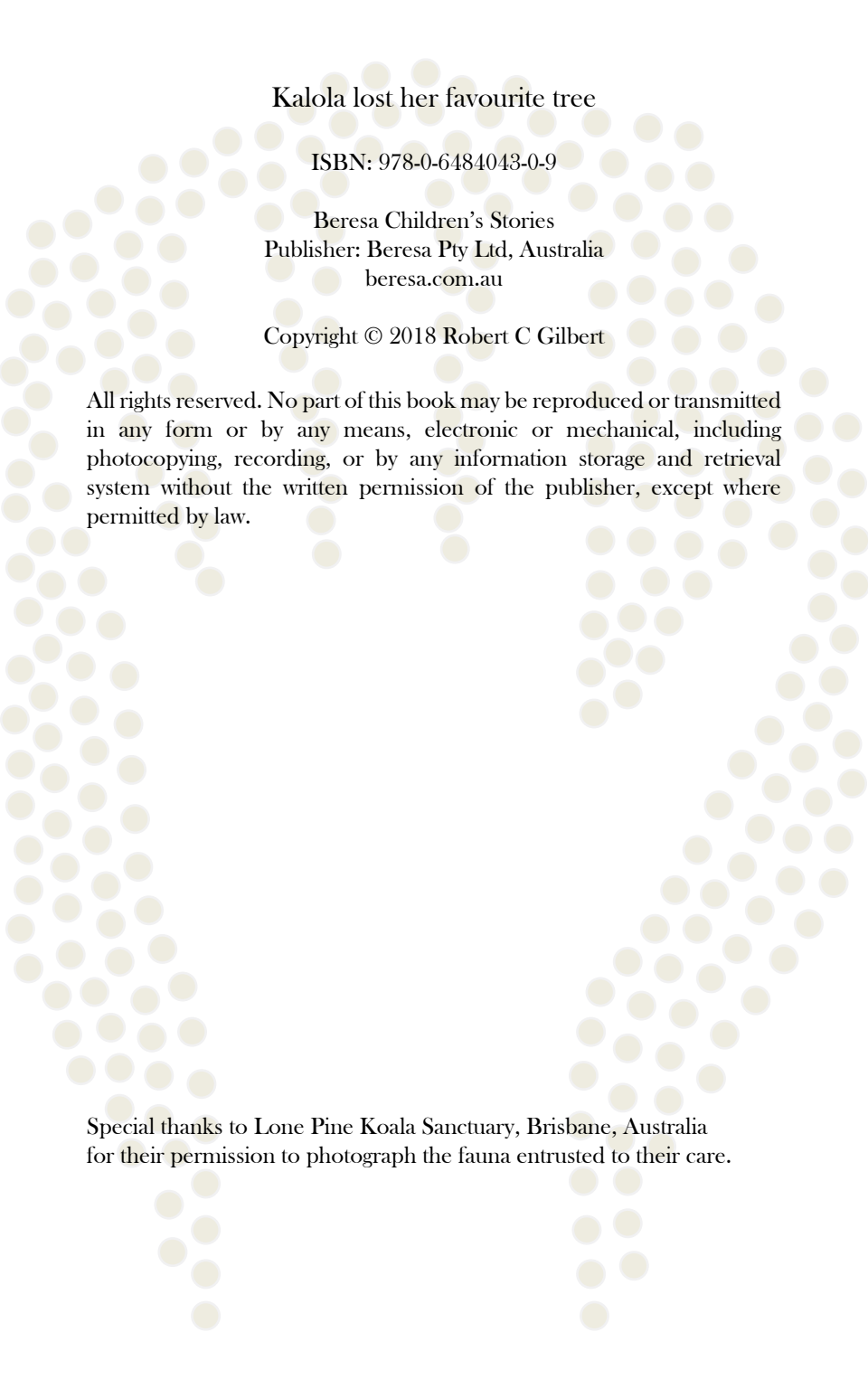




*Kalola
lost her
favourite
tree*

*Story and Photography by
Robert C Gilbert*



Kalola lost her favourite tree

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Special thanks to Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary, Brisbane, Australia
for their permission to photograph the fauna entrusted to their care.



“What a wonderful day for a wander,”
Said Wobbly Wallaby looking yonder.
“I think I’ll hop down to the open paddock,
Then chew the yummy grass by the tussock.”

Over the hill - hoppity skip jump;
Down the pathway - skippity hop thump;
Along the gum tree avenue - hop hip hop;
And out onto the clearing - with a flop.





There he found Kalola Koala looking forlorn,
Sitting on her own in the middle of the lawn.
Wobbly said, “Good morning Kalola, are you lost?
Shouldn’t you be up a tree in a sleepy riposte?”

Kalola grumbled, "I've lost my favourite tree.
I'm sure someone has stolen it - Woe is me.
I had just got down to drink from the billabong,
And when I turned around - it was gone!"





“Let me help you find it,” said Wobbly,
“It can’t have gone very far or quickly.
Trees don’t have big skippity feet like mine.”
And he licked his long hoppy feet in recline.



“Silly Wobbly,” Kalola said and sighed,
“They can’t hop all over the countryside.
Trees don’t have big feet like you and me,
They should sit in one place - troublesome tree.”



“Crickey!” said Wobbly, “Now that you mention it,
They do seem to just stand there and stare a bit.
I haven’t seen any trees wandering about,
Maybe it was stolen,” he said with a pout.

Just as they looked for a thief in the distance,
A rolling laughter came echoing with resonance.



It was Kooky Kookaburra giggling on a sapling,
He heard their chatter and couldn't stop cackling.

Kooky said, "Trees don't go missing due to theft,
I reckon your tree is exactly where it was left.
They don't have hoppy feet, or go walkabout,
You just need to backtrack, I've no doubt."





Well Kalola thought that was a good plan,
And headed back to the track from the dam.
But when she turned to see where she came,
All the bush trees seemed alike and the same.



But there in the middle standing tall and bright,
A mighty gum tree stood shining like a light.
Kalola squeeled, "There it is right where it should be.
It's my favourite place to sleep - Oh happy me."

“Thank you Kooky, and Wobbly as well,
Without your help I’d have nowhere to dwell.”



And off up the gum tree climbed sleepy Kalola,
Snuggled onto a branch, now a happy Koala.

Other eBooks available from Beresa Children's Stories:

Series 1

1.1 Kalola lost her favourite tree

1.2 Karagoo and Meetu

1.3 Noises from the hollow log

1.4 Bushfire escape

1.5 Joey's first day out

Beresa Children's Stories

Reading suggestions for children and people learning English.

Pre-readers

Read the story to them so that you both can see the words and pictures. Underline the words with your finger as you read to them. Choose a word(s) in the story that relates to the picture, and draw an imaginary line from the word to the part of the picture it relates to.

Early readers

Read the story together, again underline the words with your finger as you read together. Ask the learner to read the story on their own, giving gentle assistance when required.

Competent readers

Ask the learner to read the story to you, and only offer assistance when requested.

If you are asked about a word and you are not sure of its meaning, show the learner how you use a dictionary to find the correct meaning of the word. A dictionary will become an invaluable life-long assistant in their journey through language.

Read many types of interesting stories, and read often. The more you read together, the quicker they will be able to read on their own, and the quicker they will be able to satisfy their natural desire for knowledge.

- Robert C Gilbert